



Hoopa Valley Tribe

Elected Officials

Chairman: Ryan P. Jackson (elected 2015)

Vice Chair: Oscar "Tyke" Billings

Other Council: The Council consists of seven representatives, elected from their respective Districts, plus one generally elected Chair. The Council appoints a Vice-Chair.



Ryan P. Jackson, Chairman

Environmental Director: Ken Norton directs Hoopa's Tribal Environmental Protection Agency (TEPA), which has been in existence since the 1990s.

Land Base: 89,572 acres (a 12 mile X 12 mile square)

Primary Economy: Timber, firefighting, government

EPA Funding FY19 (2018-2019)

CWA 106	\$180,000
CWA 319	\$30,000
GAP	\$201,500
Superfund 128A	\$134,000
	\$545,500

Two Rivers Run Through It - The Klamath and Trinity (largest tributary to the Klamath) Rivers run through the Reservation. Salmon Dependent on the Rivers are core to Hupa culture, subsistence, and religion. Consequently, the Tribe forcefully and successfully champions water quality protection and restoration of the Klamath Basin.

Capacity Building: The Tribe has long been a recipient of General Assistance Program funding, which has supported development of the TEPA more broadly, and the programmatic development of many of the Tribe's current capacities. The Tribe continues to receive GAP funding to support program administration, strategic planning, solid waste implementation, and cross-tribal engagement.



General Information – The Hoopa Tribe is a compact tribe, meaning they have assumed responsibility for many services that were traditionally administered by the BIA and IHS. Hoopa is the only Tribe in California that manages their own sanitation construction projects, a function they compacted from the IHS. They administer a host of programs that were derived from the BIA to support, programs such as fire-fighting, realty, forestry, wildlife, and fisheries. They run the Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District (HVPUD), which manages a transfer station, and drinking water and wastewater programs. The Tribe also operates businesses, such as a hotel and rock aggregate operation, as well as their own police force and court system. The Tribe is one of the largest employers in Humboldt County and the Hoopa Valley Reservation is the biggest tribal land base in California. Hoopa will receive funding from four EPA programs in FY2019 and has received funding from other EPA programs in the past. The Tribe initiated a performance partnership grant (PPG) in 1999, which folds qualified EPA funding sources into a single grant. Region 9 coordinates most closely with TEPA and HVPUD, who manage most of the Tribe's EPA-related issues.

Solid Waste Management – Hoopa has been closing illegal dumps, recycling scrap metal and educating their members about proper waste disposal since the mid-1990s. Illegal dumping has been curtailed to a large degree, but the Tribe continues to prosecute individuals who violate solid waste laws. TEPA works with Council and all enforcement entities to maintain a team approach to curbing illegal storage and dumping of waste.

Superfund National Priorities list (NPL) – The abandoned Celtor Chemical Works copper ore mill in the northern end of Hoopa Valley was the first site on tribal land to be added to the NPL. EPA worked with Hoopa to clean and delist the site. TEPA and R9 Superfund Division (SFD) staff recently identified mine tailings adjacent to the Site along the bank of the Trinity River. SFD initiated a Remedial Investigation in coordination with TEPA. The investigation is ongoing and included extensive field sampling in 2017. SFD staff have also been working with the Tribe to evaluate another Site, the Copper Bluff Mine, for proposal to the NPL. Acid mine drainage has been flowing into the Trinity River since the mine closed in 1962, potentially exposing tribal and non-tribal fisherman to heavy metals and threatening the fishery on which the Hupa People depend. In July 2018, EPA received a letter of concurrence from Hoopa for proposing the site to the NPL.

Superfund Brownfields - The Tribe has worked with EPA to clean and redevelop several Brownfields sites. Hoopa's CERCLA 128(a) Tribal Response Program, initiated in 2011, has been providing resources to identify and revitalize brownfields and other contaminated sites on the Reservation and to support TEPA in protecting public health and the environment (including NPL-related work described above). For example, the Tribe recently used 128(a) funding to abate lead and asbestos to help renovate their Tribal Court House that had been shuttered in 2014 due to structural issues. The Court House's redevelopment was completed in 2018 and allows TEPA to effectively enforce environmental ordinances. In 2018, Hoopa successfully applied to receive assistance to assess and develop cleanup plans for several more sites through EPA's Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program.

Drinking Water: The Tribe's drinking water system is complex with two surface water treatment plants and multiple pressure zones, storage tanks, and booster stations. Ex. (b)(5): Internal

Ex. (b)(5): Internal Deliberative

The Tribe has two current Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside grants, one for \$59,000 to update chlorination facilities, the second for \$411,000 to install ultraviolet light and hydrogen peroxide combination to inactivate cyanotoxins, which were detected in the drinking water supply in the summer of 2014.

Wastewater: In FY15, under the Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Program, EPA in coordination with the Indian Health Service (IHS) funded a "pilot" greywater system as part of a wastewater project listed on the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS). The Project was in response to a severe drought. The greywater systems were completed in Fall 2016. They divert sink and wash water to the gardens of each selected property. Each property owner was provided training on how to utilize the greywater systems. The top septic waste priority for the Tribe is a septage facility, which is currently listed on the SDS. Hoopa is conducting a feasibility study for the facility under a California Prop 1 grant. The Tribe currently hauls the septage waste and dumps in an open pit.

Relicensing the Klamath Hydroelectric Project (KHP) -

The KHP included eight developments. A traditional relicensing process originally ended in FERC recommending an alternative that did not involve dam removal. Dissatisfaction with the alternative spawned a parallel mediation process that lead to development of two linked agreements that called for dam removal; the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSa) identified PacifiCorp's obligations and the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA) identified complimentary restoration plans that would be funded by other parties. In October 2009, Hoopa wrote a letter to the EPA expressing concerns about the KHSa and KBRA. The Tribe felt the Agreements, a) undermined the purposes of the Clean Water Act, b) limited PacifiCorp's obligations to implement TMDLs, and c) allowed the 401 Certification process to be held in abeyance, which exempted PacifiCorp from meeting new water quality requirements. The EPA responded to Hoopa's letter, indicating we shared their concern with point c, but disagreed with points a and b. The Tribe attempted to assert CWA 401 certification authority over the KHP during relicensing proceedings, but was not successful in that effort. Congress did not authorize the KBRA, so KHP relicensing reverted to a new path under an amended KHSa. The new path involves decommissioning four dams under direction of the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRRC). The KRRRC submitted a comprehensive removal plan to FERC in June 2018. The Project, if completed, would be the largest dam removal project in U.S. History and would be expected to improve water quality and help restore fisheries.

Water Quality Program – TEPA has conducted water quality monitoring on the Trinity and its tributaries since 1993 and initiated water quality monitoring on the Klamath River in 2010. The Hoopa Valley Tribe was one of the first regional tribes to receive "Treatment as State" approval in 1996 under the Clean Water Act and has EPA-approved water quality standards for the Trinity and Klamath Rivers. Their Klamath standards include numeric objectives for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, temperature, *microcystis* and microcystin. The Tribe helped CA develop cultural and subsistence fishing beneficial use standards. Hoopa's persistent and insightful leadership in water issues also resulted in the Trinity Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act, which paved the way for significant restoration in the Trinity sub-basin.